



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held June 5, 2007, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

“In an effort to help curtail youth access to tobacco products, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors instructed the Los Angeles County Business License Commission, in conjunction with the Director of Public Health and County Counsel, to conduct a public hearing on the establishment of a tobacco retail licensing program for the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and provide a report to the Board. Subsequent to the Board’s instruction on January 30, 2007, the Commission submitted a report on April 25, 2007 with its findings and recommendations supporting the development and enforcement of a tobacco retail licensing program for the County’s unincorporated areas. The report’s recommendations include the establishment of a tobacco retail licensing ordinance, implementation of a license fee and program to include full cost-recovery for enforcement and administration, and assessment of the same license fee for all tobacco retailers regardless of the size of the retailers or revenues.”

Therefore, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a motion that the Board take the following actions:

1. Instruct the Director of Public Health, in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Officer, County Counsel, Treasurer and Tax Collector, and the Business License Commission, to develop a tobacco retail licensing ordinance for the unincorporated areas of the County guided by the Commission’s recommendations as outlined in its April 25, 2007 report, in an effort to help curtail youth access to tobacco products, and submit the ordinance for the Board’s consideration within 120 days; and

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2. Instruct the Director of Public Health to continue to urge cities in the County which do not have a tobacco retail licensing ordinance to consider the development and adoption of such an ordinance.

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“I am concerned with the impact this motion will have on small businesses in the unincorporated areas. While I recognize the importance of implementing license fees to sustain such programs, I believe a sliding scale, if feasible, would minimize the burden on small mom and pop groceries.”

Therefore, Supervisor Burke made a suggestion that Supervisor Yaroslavsky's motion be amended to also instruct the Director of Public Health to evaluate a sliding-scale license fee based on the volume of sales of tobacco, and/or other criteria that may be applicable and review and report back to the Board within 30 days with recommendations from cities that already have a sliding-scale model in place. Supervisor Yaroslavsky accepted Supervisor Burke's amendment.

On motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Instructed the Director of Public Health, in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Officer, County Counsel, Treasurer and Tax Collector, and the Business License Commission, to develop a tobacco retail licensing ordinance for the unincorporated areas of the County guided by the Commission's recommendations as outlined in its April 25, 2007 report, in an effort to help curtail youth access to tobacco products, and submit the ordinance for the Board's consideration within 120 days; and
2. Instructed the Director of Public Health to:
 - Evaluate a sliding-scale license fee based on the volume of sales of tobacco, and/or other criteria that may be applicable and review and report back to the Board within 30 days with recommendations from cities that already have a sliding-scale model in place; and

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- Continue to urge cities in the County which do not have a tobacco retail licensing ordinance to consider the development and adoption of such an ordinance.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Director of Public Health
Treasurer and Tax Collector
Executive Director, Business License Commission